

THE MASSACRE OF THE PIGEANS.

BY SHENANDOAH. Author of "Sheridan's Last Ride" and "Moke-ta-va-ta, the Martyred Chief."

As rendered at the close of a lecture upon the subject of "MOKE-TA-VA-TA; OR, THE NATION AND ITS WARRIORS," in Masonic Temple, Washington, D. C., March 30, 1870, by Cora L. V. Tappan.

Stern winter flashed its frozen bars Across the fiery belt of Mars; The morbid brow was crowned with light, The valley robed in spotless white; Calm Justice, bending from the sky, Looked o'er the battlements on high, Her shining balance downward hung, All solemnly and still it swung To weigh the deeds of shame and worth, At that hour passing on the earth; On one side was a nation's ban, The other held the poor Piegian.

Great was the power, wealth, and pride Piled mountain high upon one side, The prowess and the strength of years, The triumphs over doubts and fears; The conquests, sometimes gained o'er wrong, With Freedom's name to make them strong; The other side held want, distress, The children of the wilderness, Feeble and faint, in numbers few, The wily winds could pierce them through, A nation's army—Sheridan— Against the outlawed, poor Piegian.

On one side glittering steel and fire, To do the work of death so dire; Steeds prancing, banners waving high, Strong men to conquest drawing nigh, Such victory as might could gain, With none their weapons to restrain; The other but a few souls brave, Who fought their helpless ones to save, Women and babes, shrieking, awoke To perish 'mid the battle smoke, Murdered, or turned out there to die Beneath the stern, wintry sky; Here, a great Christian warrior's plan, There, Piegian, and the poor Piegian.

Far o'er the seas, Columbia's hands Uplift the fallen of all lands; To Ireland's stricken sons, her voice Speaks, bidding them awake, rejoice; From England's pride and wealth of state, She bids the pattered millions wait; Wakes from her dismal, dreary trance, The sleeping liberty of France; Salutes across the golden sea Brave Garibaldi's Italy; Pleads everywhere for rights of man, Why not for her own poor Piegian? The summer fields of flowery Spala Give promise of bright Freedom's grain; Far to the distant Orient, A flash of fiery thought is sent, The dark Mongolian is stirred With every potent, piercing word; To all the races 'neath the sun She woe-bound to shame and toil, Enslaved, enfranchised on her soil, For whom her own fair sons were slain, To wash away foul slavery's stain; Oh, in this splendor, perfect plan, There is a place for the poor Piegian.

LITERATURE.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR. By John William Draper, M. D., LL.D. Volume III. Published by Harper & Brothers, Philadelphia agents: Claxton, Remsen & Haffelinger.

This is the concluding volume of Dr. Draper's great work on the war for the suppression of the Rebellion, and it takes up the story of the conflict where the last volume ended, at the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln, and brings it down to the surrender of Lee and Johnston, the capture of Jeff. Davis, and the disbanding of the armies. It cannot be expected at a period so near the great events themselves, that a thoroughly impartial and satisfactory history of the great American civil war can be written, although the facilities now offered for obtaining information are such as will perhaps more than compensate for the absolutely judicial spirit in which the historian of the future is expected to write. Dr. Draper is entitled to credit, however, for having evidently endeavored to divest his mind of all passion and prejudice, and to record the events of the war, with their causes and effects, with the pen of a philosopher rather than as a partisan. He has produced a really great work that is a monument of patient and thorough investigation of facts, and that will give a better idea of the great conflict in all its bearings than any publication on the subject that has yet been put before the public. For this generation at least this will be considered as the standard history of the American civil war, and for the accuracy of its facts, at least, it is not likely to be challenged either at the North or the South. The period of the war recorded in the volume before us was one of great interest. It was then that we perfected the organization of our armies, retrieved the numberless disasters of the early stage of the conflict, and finally achieved the results for which we were fighting. The description of the various battles and campaigns given by Dr. Draper are based as far as possible upon the reports of the commanding officers on both sides, compared with the reports of details made by subordinates. In every case the language of the chief actors is retained as far as possible, and the effort of the author has been to obtain absolute accuracy so far as it was in his power to do so. In two concluding chapters a retrospect of the war is made, and the prospects of the future are discussed. The work is made complete by a very full index. The style of Dr. Draper is elegant and graphic, and we commend this history to our readers, as well for its value as a record

of great events as for its interest as a narrative. From the same house we have received "The Hohensteins," a novel, by Friedrich Spielhagen, translated by Professor Schele de Vere, and published by Leypoldt & Holt. This is a story of German life, and it is distinguished by that peculiar descriptive power and philosophical insight into character that have made the writings of Spielhagen to be so highly esteemed by thoughtful readers. Those who have lingered over the pages of "Problematic Characters," and its sequel, "Through Night to Light," will welcome this equally great although very different work by the same author.

—Porter & Coates send us "Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon," with notes critical and explanatory, by Rev. Henry Cowles, D. D. This work, like that on the Old Testament prophets by the same author, is designed as an aid both to pastors and people in the study of the Bible. The general plan is an excellent one, and the book cannot fail to be of great practical utility. We think, however, that Dr. Cowles has made a great mistake in referring to "The Song of Solomon." Grave doubts are entertained, and have always been entertained, by learned theologians as to the propriety of including this erotic poem in the sacred canon, and Dr. Adam Clark gives an excellent piece of advice when he recommends ministers and teachers to let it alone, especially as the other and assuredly authentic portions of the Scripture contain all that is necessary for the full exposition of the doctrines of religion as received by the Jewish and Christian Churches. Dr. Cowles has evidently been greatly embarrassed in his endeavors to interpret "The Song of Solomon," and in our opinion he is very far from giving a satisfactory solution of its difficulties. The reasoning of theologians is not as other men's, and it is sufficient to say that, although the logic of Dr. Cowles may be accepted in ecclesiastical circles as applied to this difficult subject, it would not stand for an instant if tested by lay rules. We regret that any reference was made to "The Song of Solomon" in the work before us, because we think that such reference will impair the influence of a book that is calculated to do much good and to aid materially in encouraging a study of the Scriptures.

—From J. Pennington & Son, No. 127 S. Seventh street, we have received a handsome quarto volume, edited by Alexander Deroort, of the Congressional printing office, giving in the original French some of the most important and interesting portions of Lamartine's "Histoire de la Revolution Francaise." The subjects of the extracts are "Louis XVI," "Charlotte Corday," "Marie Antoinette," "Les Girondins," "Les Girondins Fugitifs," and "Madame Elisabeth." The book is handsomely printed, and it will be found exceedingly useful to French students who are unable to obtain access to Lamartine's complete work.

—From T. B. Peterson & Brothers we have received "The Lost Daughter" and other stories by Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz. This is the eleventh volume of the complete edition of Mrs. Hentz's novels now in course of publication. Of this edition there is one volume still to be issued.

—From Robert Wallin, No. 316 North Twelfth street, we have received "Exeter Hall, a Theological Romance," published by the American News Company. This work is described on the cover as "a wonderful book," "the most startling and interesting book of the day," all of which may be very well as an advertisement, but the perusal of a very few chapters will probably convince most readers, as it has us, that "Exeter Hall" is a very poor trash indeed.

—The April number of "The American Architect and Builders' Monthly" shows improvement, and we commend it to the favorable notice of designers of the profession for whose benefit it is specially designed. The lithographic plates are handsome, the most noticeable being those for the new Baptist church now being erected at the corner of Broad and Spruce streets and for the new Masonic Hall in New York. Published by Lightfoot & Flew.

—The March number of the "Journal of the Franklin Institute," edited by Professor Henry Morton, Ph. D., has as usual an interesting series of articles on practical and scientific subjects.

—From the Sunday School Union we have received "Christiana Hatherley's Girlhood," "Miss Margery," and the "Crumbling Path," all of which are suitable for Sunday School libraries.

—From the Central News Company we have received the latest numbers of "Punch and Fun."

—Turner & Co. send us "Appleton's Journal and Our Boys and Girls" for April 19.

—The Graphic gives, *apropos* of Mr. Dickens' new story, a column of reminiscences of the first appearance of "The Pickwick Papers," from which we quote the most interesting portions. "We came the other day across the original announcement of 'Pickwick' in the form of an advertisement in a daily journal. It promises that on the 31st of March, 1836, 'will be published, to be continued monthly, the first number of the 'Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club,' containing a faithful record of the perambulations, perils, adventures, and sporting transactions of the corresponding members, edited by Boz; each monthly part embellished with four illustrations, by Seymour. The 'Pickwick Papers,' it must be remembered, were in their origin regarded by the publishers not so much as letter-press with illustrations as illustrations with letter-press. There was in those days a curious rage for the humor of cockney sportsmen and cockneyism in general. The public were supposed to be never tired of pictures of the city gentlemen shooting at sparrows on hedges and poultry in farm-yard hen-coops; and as this sort of thing undoubtedly paid, the enterprising publishers projected a

monthly serial in which the literary matter should furnish a monthly pretext for four plates of that kind. The public were facetiously informed that 'the Pickwick Papers, the Pickwick Diary, the Pickwick Correspondence, in short the whole of the Pickwick Papers, had been purchased from the patriotic secretary at an immense expense, and placed in the hands of Boz, the author of 'Sketches of Everyday Life and Everyday People,' a gentleman whom the publishers consider highly qualified for the task of arranging these important documents and placing them before the public in an attractive form, and who is at present deeply immersed in his arduous labors.' We know how speedily Dickens got rid of all this cumbersome machinery of a cockney club, which after the first chapter receives only once or twice a bare mention. It was during the progress of 'Pickwick' that he undertook the editorship of *Bentley's Miscellany*, and wrote 'Oliver Twist,' which appeared serially in that periodical. 'Pickwick' and 'Oliver Twist,' continues *The Graphic*, "in fact were written together, month by month, neither work being at any time, we believe, one day ahead of the printer's demand for manuscript, a fact which is, in itself, of some interest in literary history. Pickwick's monthly green leaves never, we believe, failed to appear; but the 'Parish Boy's Progress' was certainly once interrupted. In the month of June, 1837, the readers of *Bentley* missed the usual instalment of 'Oliver Twist,' an apology appearing for the author on the ground that owing to the sudden death of a dear young relative to whom he was most affectionately attached, he is compelled to seek a short interval of rest and quiet." *Bentley* was given up in the following year, for 'Pickwick' had laid hold of the public attention, and the author was already widely famous. No thanks, however, to the critics, who only perceived the new light when its rays were dazzling the eyes of all. One weekly critic, indeed, did remark on the first number of 'Pickwick' that 'the design is playful and the opportunities for good-natured satire do not seem to be neglected.' When nine numbers had appeared, the *Athenaeum* reported as follows: 'The writer of the periodical which is now before us has great cleverness; but he runs closely on some leading bounds in the humorous pack, and when he gives tongue (perchance a vulgar tongue) he reminds you of the baying of several deep dogs who have gone before. The Papers of the Pickwick Club, in fact, are made up of two pounds of Smollett, three ounces of Sterne, a handful of Hook, a dash of grammatical Pierce Egan—incidents at pleasure, served with an original sauce *piquante*.'

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Twenty-fifth Annual Report.

ANUARY 1, 1870.

Amount of Net Cash Assets, January 1, 1869, \$10,013,474 45

Amount of Premiums and Policy Fees, \$5,104,649 00

Amount of Interest received and accrued, including premium on gold, etc., \$70,767 43

DISBURSEMENTS. Losses by death, \$707,687 19

Losses received from reinsurers, \$5,979,912 87

Dividends, \$244,909 00

Commissions, brokerage, and agency expenses, \$61,924 42

Advertising and office expenses, salaries, printing, taxes, revenue stamps and insurance, \$50,734 76

TOTAL, \$13,025,561 23

Cash on hand, in Bank, and in Trust Co., \$329,090 41

Invested in United States Stocks, \$2,301,217 49

Invested in New York City Bonds, \$4,549 60

Invested in New York State and other stocks, \$1,024,941 11

Bonds and Mortgages (secured by real estate), \$3,455,577 11

Real Estate in the city of New York, \$1,445,527 11

Real Estate in other parts of the State, \$1,445,527 11

Real Estate in other parts of the country, \$1,445,527 11

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